



WCI
WELCOME CLUBS INTERNATIONAL

MEET WCI's NEW President Elect 2016-2018

I was born in Buenos Aires, Argentina. Throughout my life I have lived in England, the United States, Brazil, Jamaica, and I have stayed for long periods of time in both Turkey and in India. Each one of my moves represented a time of upheaval, a time of pain, a time of possibilities, a time of hope. Above all, moves have been a way to know different people and different cultures. The whole process of moves has been an exquisite balance between preserving my self-identity and self-worth while adopting some new habits and beliefs that have broadened my perception skills and deepened my awareness. I first participated in the International Conference in San Diego, California, in 2008. I was then member of the Associação Beneficente International Women's Club Porto Alegre, and I travelled as part of this thriving club. By then, I had already moved back to Buenos Aires, and after some time, became non-resident member of the IWCPOA.

In 2010, I travelled to Porto Alegre and participated of the International Conference. Julia Banks assumed the Presidency of WCI-2010-2012-, and invited me to be Chair of Mexico, South America and Central America as part of the Executive Committee.



Maria Fernanda Arduino de Obiglio
International Women's Club of Porto Alegre,
Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil

As Chair, I participated of a few events held by the International Women's Clubs in Brazil. One of them was the Meeting of the Confederação of Women's Clubs in São Paulo.

During my time as Chair of Mexico, South and Central America, I lived for some time in Kingston, Jamaica, and the Latin American Ladies in Kingston joined WCI. During the months of December, January and February, I participated of their meetings, and when back in Buenos Aires, I contributed with articles for their online Newsletter. I was able to develop a close relationship with them.

As from 2012, due to personal and professional reasons, I could not pursue my job as Chair, and Caroline Dimmers-WCI President 2012-2014- invited me to remain part of the Executive Committee as Consultant to Mexico, South and Central America, which has been my job to today.

To me *Welcome Clubs International* is about cultural sensitivity and human compassion, and in this way, to help create a harmonious, peaceful world.

Maria Fernanda Arduino

Academic Background

- ▶ Doctorate of Education. Majors: Organizational Leadership and Human Services Administration. Abraham S. Fischler School of Education. Nova Southeastern University. Miami, FL. United States of America
- ▶ Master of Arts in Human Development. Salve Regina University. Newport, RI. United States of America
- ▶ Bachelor in Family Sciences. Universidad Austral. Buenos Aires. Argentina
- ▶ Bachelor in English Language and English Literature. Teaching Degree. Lenguas Vivas Teacher Training College. Buenos Aires. Argentina

Work Experience

- ▶ Lecturer on Linguistics at several Teacher Training Colleges in Argentina
- ▶ Online Instructor for Graduate Courses on Family Sciences. Universidad Austral
- ▶ Board Member in International Schools. Chair of Education Committee
- ▶ President of Associação Beneficente International Women's Club Porto Alegre, Brazil
- ▶ Chair to Mexico, South and Central America. Executive Committee Member. Welcome Clubs International